

though money was tight, there was always more than enough good Wisconsin cheese and Wonder bread to go around.

Sixty years is a long time and a lot of memories. Their successful union could be measured in years or even tender moments. But even more impressive a measure is their four wonderful children and seven grandchildren.

A marriage of 60 years is an impressive and rare accomplishment. Today, I express my deepest admiration for the Safraneks—the love, the laughter, the family and the marriage that, while not born in Wisconsin, symbolizes Wisconsin and its values at their best.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CLYDE BROWN

● Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of Mississippi. On June 13, 2003, Clyde Brown of Moss Point, MS was recognized for his long-term efforts to protect the fragile, natural resources of coastal Mississippi by receiving the 2003 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's, NOAA, Environmental Hero Award.

Established in 1995 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Earth Day, the Environmental Hero award honors individuals and organizations for their tireless efforts to preserve and protect our Nation's environment. Mr. Brown is among only 36 winners in the Nation of the 2003 NOAA Environmental Hero Award.

A lifelong resident of eastern Jackson County, MS, Clyde Brown recently retired after nearly 40 years of employment at the International Paper Company and is a part-time oysterman and seafood processor. He has been involved in a number of volunteer efforts that range from serving on citizen advisory councils to establishing the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources' Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, NERR.

Mr. Brown has worked with my office and other members of Congress over the years to secure support for a variety of projects including the oyster relay project, establishment of the Grand Bay NERR, expansion of the Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge, a local Federal Emergency Management Agency buyout, disaster relief, and the Coastal Impact Assistance Program, to name a few.

David Ruple, manager of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources/Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve said, "Clyde Brown is soft-spoken yet determined in his efforts to conserve and restore the resources of the Mississippi gulf coast. He serves as the pulse of the local community and has been the sounding board for local residents inquiring about Federal and State conservation initiatives over the years. Clyde is a true environmental hero, and I am proud to have had the opportunity to work with him.

It is citizens such as Mr. Brown whose dedicated efforts and out-

standing accomplishments greatly benefit the environment and make our Nation a better place for all Americans.●

#### SALUTING GEORGE AND LOIS FERNAU AND FUTURES OF AMERICA

● Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, today I salute George and Lois Fernau of St. Louis, who are the founders of a very talented, very patriotic singing group, the Futures of America.

The Fernaus are parents of four children, and something Mr. Fernau saw on television in the early 70s as he was about to take his daughter to softball practice disturbed him very deeply. He watched as a group of protesters burned the American flag. Mr. Fernau thought this was a slap in the face to those who fought to defend freedom under that flag and a desecration of an enduring symbol of freedom and democracy. He was inspired to do something to express his love for the country, so he asked his daughters after softball practice if they would be willing to be part of a singing group that would tour the country and spread patriotic feeling through music. Thus, the Futures of America were born.

The mission of the Futures of America is to strongly encourage all Americans, but especially young people, to learn what they call the "M.V.P.'s of Life": morals, values, principles and patriotism. They sing classic American songs such as The Battle Hymn of the Republic, Put On a Happy Face, God Bless America, as well as songs written by Mr. Fernau, such as Missouri: Our Home State, St. Louis, My Kind of Town, and You're My Music. They have performed on radio and television, and have also released several albums of their music.

Since their inception in 1971, the Futures of America have kept up an ambitious and impressive schedule, traveling close to a million miles and performing over 2,500 times. They have sung for a number of dignitaries, including two Presidents, an African king, and a host of Missouri's State and local elected officials. They also sing at venues such as Air Force bases, parades, and conventions for groups such as the Knights of Columbus, the American Legion, and the Rotary Club. The Futures of America also have the distinction of having performed before all 172 VA hospitals in America, warming the hearts of many veterans.

I commend George and Lois Fernau and the Futures of America for their service to the community over the past 32 years. Their patriotism and strong moral values are a good example for everyone. I am honored to share their accomplishments with my colleagues, and I wish them all the best for the future.●

#### A TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL KEVIN B. KUKLOK

● Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to MG Kevin B.

Kuklok, who is about to retire and return to private life after more than 35 years of selfless service to our Nation as a U.S. Marine.

Major General Kuklok graduated from the University of North Dakota, with a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering. He also received his master's degree in business administration from the United States International University in San Diego, CA. He enrolled in the Platoon Leaders Class program in March 1965, and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve in August 1968.

He has served with numerous operational commands in billets ranging from staff officer to Commanding General. Some of these units were Marine Medium Lift Helicopter Squadrons 267 and 367; 2d Battalion, 7th Marines; Marine Attack Helicopter Squadron 169; Marine Air Group 46; and Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 766.

He was Commanding Officer Headquarters and Maintenance Squadron 41, Det B; Commanding Officer of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 764. He also served as Director of Readiness and Safety, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, MARRESFOR, New Orleans, LA.

Upon promotion to brigadier general, he assumed command as the commanding general, Reserve Marine Ground Task Force East, Camp Lejeune, NC.

Major General Kuklok is a veteran of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He also served as the commanding general, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Reserve, from September 1997 until August 2000.

In November 2001, General Kuklok was ordered back to active duty to support Operation Enduring Freedom, at which time he assumed his current duties as Assistant Commandant, Plans, Policies and Operations, his last active duty position.

Throughout his career as a U.S. Marine, Major General Kuklok has demonstrated uncompromising character, discerning wisdom, and a sincere, profound sense of duty to his country, his Corps, and especially to his marines and their families.

On behalf of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I wish to recognize Major General Kuklok's accomplishments and his devoted service to the Nation. Congratulations to him, his wife, Diana, and their two children, Nicole and Bryce, on the completion of a long and distinguished career.●

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF SAGINAW BAY AREA

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to recognize a great organization from my home State of Michigan. On August 14, 2003, people will gather to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saginaw Bay Area, Inc. I am pleased to pay tribute